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# The Florida Buggist

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## A NEW SPECIES OF VELIA FROM FLORIDA (HEM.-HET.)\*

By CARL J. DRAKE

While collecting insects about two miles southwest of Gainesville, Florida, during the summer of 1918, the writer found numerous specimens of a species of a water-strider in an old swamp. A study of this material indicates the insect to be an undescribed species of the genus *Velia*, family *Veliidae*. The species is very closely allied to *Velia stagnalis* Burm. Mr. W. L. McAtee has very kindly compared a male and female with his series of *V. stagnalis*, collected in the vicinity of Washington, D. C. The insect is named in honor of Prof. J. R. Watson, who has taken a great interest in Florida insects.

*Velia watsoni* new species.

Head formed as in *V. stagnalis* Burmeister, the smooth impressed median line quite distinct. Eyes globose, strongly faceted. Antennae long and slender; basal segment curved, much stronger, also two-sevenths longer than the second; the second a little stronger than the third; the second, third and fourth about equal in length. Pronotum very coarsely punctured, longitudinally carinate in the middle, produced and rather narrowly rounded posteriorly, the tubercles large and prominent. Metapleura with the upward projecting spines visible from above, located, as in *stagnalis*, about the middle. First and second abdominal segments (dorsal surface) with a lateral carina on each side. Legs long and rather stout, the under surface of femora and tibiae denticulate; length of tarsi and tarsal segment proportioned about the same as in *stagnalis*. Antennae, legs and body pilose and setigerous, the hairs along the posterior margin of the pronotum becoming rather long. Length, male 4.2 mm. and female 4.1 mm.; width, male about 1 mm. and female 1.12 mm.

Color: General color dark or blackish brown. Legs pale luteous, the bands varying from light brown to fuscous. Eyes black. Antennae pale

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\*Contributions from the Department of Entomology, New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York.

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brown to brown. Pronotum brown, the posterior portion becoming yellowish brown in the female. Abdomen dark brown, the venter blackish; connexivum (male) with a yellowish brown spot on the anterior portions of each of the last three abdominal segments and the entire connexivum lighter with more prominent markings in the female.

Described from numerous specimens, collected during the summer of 1918 near Gainesville, Florida. *Type* and *allotype* in my collection. *Paratypes* in the Florida Experiment Station, Museum of the University of Florida and my collection. The eggs are deposited on floating aquatic plants and floating sticks or wood just beneath the surface of the water. The species is predaceous and lives in stagnant water. The macropterous form is unknown. The insect very closely resembles *Velia stagnalis* Burm. from which it may be distinguished by its darker color, the much more prominent tubercles in the pronotum and the much longer antennae. The first antennal segment in *V. watsoni* is much longer than the first antennal segment in *stagnalis*, the first segment in the latter and the second segment in the former being equal in length.

***Velia stagnalis* Burmeister.**

Van Duzee (Cat. Hem. of Amer. North of Mexico) records this species from Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, North Carolina and West Indies. I have two specimens from Sandusky Bay, Lake Erie (collected by V. R. Haber) and four from Rockbridge, Ohio (collected by A. J. Bassinger). The Ohio specimens were collected in stagnant water; they agree perfectly in form and color with a specimen from District of Columbia that Mr. McAtee has kindly presented to me.

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**ADDITIONS TO THE THYSANOPTERA OF FLORIDA.—V.**

J. R. WATSON

A collection of thrips from Mr. A. C. Mason of Miami, contains two new species and a new variety as follows:

57. *Dictyothrips floridensis*, n. sp.

General body color dark brown, legs and antennae light brown. Head and thorax deeply reticulated.

*Measurements*: Total body length 1.00 mm. Head: length 0.10 mm., width 0.15 mm.; prothorax: length 0.11, width 0.16 mm.; mesothorax: width 0.24 mm.; metathorax: width 0.20 mm.; abdomen: width 0.23 mm.; antennae: segment 1, 24; 2, 40; 3, 50; 4, 40; 5, 48; 6, 58; 7, 16; 8, 24 microns; total length 0.267 mm.

*Head* 1.5 times as broad as long; cheeks strongly arched, sparsely pilose; front with a median ridge, extending well forward, forming a right angled projection between the antennae. Bristles: two postocular, one in front of each posterior ocellus, and a row of four across the frons in front of the anterior ocellus; all short, but with bright-colored conspicuous bases. *Eyes* very large, occupying  $\frac{2}{3}$  of both the length and width of the head, markedly bulging, sparsely pilose, facets very large. *Ocelli* very large; the posterior pair situated about the middle of the border of the eyes,